20 Largest California Wildland Fires (By *Acreage Burned)

FIRE NAME/CAUSE	DATE	COUNTY	ACRES	STRUCTURES	DEATHS
1 CEDAR (HUMAN)	October 2003	SAN DIEGO	273,246	4,847	15
2 ZACA (HUMAN)	July 2007	SANTA BARBARA	240,207	1	0
3 MATILIJA (UNDETERMINED)	September 1932	VENTURA	220,000	0	0
4 *WITCH (UNDER INVESTIGATION)	October 2007	SAN DIEGO	196,420	795	0
5 MARBLE CONE (LIGHTNING)	July 1977	MONTEREY	177,866	0	0
6 LAGUNA (POWERLINES)	September 1970	SAN DIEGO	175,425	382	5
7 DAY FIRE (HUMAN)	September 2006	VENTURA	162,702	11	0
8 MCNALLY (HUMAN)	July 2002	TULARE	150,696	17	0
9 STANISLAUS COMPLEX (LIGHTNING)	August 1987	TUOLUMNE	145,980	28	1
10 BIG BAR COMPLEX (LIGHTNING)	August 1999	TRINITY	140,948	0	0
11 CAMPBELL COMPLEX (POWERLINES)	August 1990	ТЕНАМА	125,892	27	0
12 WHEELER (ARSON)	July 1985	VENTURA	118,000	26	0
13 SIMI (UNDER INVESTIGATION)	October 2003	VENTURA	108,204	300	0
14 HWY. 58 (VEHICLE)	August 1996	SAN LUIS OBISPO	106,668	13	0
15 CLAMPITT (POWERLINES)	September 1970	LOS ANGELES	105,212	86	4
16 BAR COMPLEX (LIGHTNING)	July 2006	TRINITY	100,414	0	0
17 WELLMAN (EQUIP. USE)	June 1966	SANTA BARBARA	93,600	0	0
18 OLD (HUMAN)	October 2003	SAN BERNARDINO	91,281	1,003	6
19 KIRK (LIGHTNING)	September 1999	MONTEREY	86,700	0	0
20 REFUGIO (MISC STRUCTURE)	September 1955	SANTA BARBARA	84,770	20	0

There is no doubt that there were fires with significant acreage loss in years prior to 1932, but those records are less reliable, and this list is meant to give an overview of the large acreage-loss fires in more recent times. (Also note that this list does not include fire jurisdiction. These are the top 20 within the state, regardless of whether they were state, federal, or local responsibility.)



*This fire is still burning.